

Weather Forecast

Light rain tonight, ending tomorrow morning. Continued moderately cold. Temperatures today—Highest, 39, at 1:30 p.m.; lowest, 27, at 7 a.m. Yesterday—Highest, 35, at 6 p.m.; lowest, 21, at 6:10 a.m.

Late New York Markets, Page A-11.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1944—TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES.

Guide for Readers

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An Associated Press Newspaper

Washington and Suburbs THREE CENTS. FIVE CENTS Elsewhere

Big Force of U. S. Heavy Bombers Attacks Berlin for Second Time; Americans Now Fighting in Burma

Germans Report Great 350-Mile Aerial Battle

ALLIED FORCES REPULSE small attack on Italian beachhead. Page A-10

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Mar. 6.—American heavy bombers in "very strong forces" bombed Berlin today in the second American attack on the German capital.

The German radio declared one of the war's greatest air battles had raged over 350 miles from the Netherlands coast to Berlin.

The first official Allied announcement said only that "targets in the Berlin district" were hit, without identifying them further or giving other details.

This surprise followup to Saturday's "icebreaker" raid, by one formation of bombers, was a striking demonstration of the 8th Air Force's might, for it was the seventh operation of the heavy bombers in eight days.

Heavy fighter escorts accompanied today's formations on the round trip of more than 1,100 miles from British bases.

Day and Night Attacks.
Thus Berlin already has been heavily bombed by massive RAF night assaults, was brought under destructive hammer blows falling by day and night.

Presumably the American daylight attacks are aimed at precision destruction of selected targets, escaping the RAF's saturation raids.

The heavy bombers flew to Berlin as Allied medium and fighter bombers for the fifth succeeding day attacked Northern France—where Prime Minister Churchill said the Germans were preparing rocket and robot-plane installations. Last night RAF Mosquitos attacked Western Germany without loss.

In London Dingle M. Foot, parliamentary secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, told a luncheon that when resistance in the air is overwhelmed "the destruction of German war industry will follow on a far greater scale than achieved in the last few weeks."

Preliminary to Invasion.
He said the intensified bombing will be more than a policy of attrition designed to wear down German war potential over a long period—it represents the essential preliminary to invasion of Europe.

Last Wednesday was the only time in the last eight days that American heavy bombers had not gone out. Successively, they bombed the Pas-de-Calais area, Brunswick, Southwest and Northwest Germany, and yesterday hit Nazi air bases in Southern France. The bombers and fighters yesterday knocked down 27 enemy planes.

A German broadcast declared that "one of the greatest air battles of the war has been raging since 11:30 this morning over Northwest and Central Germany," extending from the Zuider Zee as far as the Hevel Lake near Berlin.

The radio said the air raid alarm sounded in Berlin just before 2 p.m. (8 a.m. Eastern war time).

Direct Course to Berlin.
The Americans took a direct course to Berlin, the Germans said, "during their incursion were continually pressed by the strongest forces of German fighter and destroyer aircraft, and were forced to ever-fresh evasive maneuvers by the fire of hundreds of antiaircraft batteries."

The attack had been expected by German antiaircraft defenses after the first two American daylight thrusts had failed. The United States bombers flew in tight formations, protected on both sides by fighters and long-range fighters flying at higher altitude, the Berlin radio continued.

"The impression that the greatest possible fighter protection by United States Army and RAF fighters was given in order to accomplish the thrust to Berlin this time was prevailing when the formations flew over the western frontier."

Yesterday's operations were executed by strongly escorted forces of Liberators which bombed the German air base at Cognac and other targets in the vicinity of Bergerac. (See RAIDS, Page A-4.)

At Least One Killed As Officer Runs Wild

Two Wounded on Coast, 2 Others Reported Slain

By the Associated Press.
RIVERSIDE, Calif., March 6.—At least one person was killed and two critically wounded when an Army officer from nearby Camp Amara ran wild with a .45-caliber pistol last night, police reported early today.

Army authorities clamped a censorship on the whole affair, but Police Chief Nestor Brule said he had reports that two additional persons had been killed inside the Army camp.

The Army officer, not identified, was reported to have shot and killed a Riverside policeman named Simpson, after having previously seriously wounded Ray Schlegel, Riverside, in attempting to commandeer an automobile. The Army officer, a Lieutenant, then was shot and critically wounded by Policeman E. S. Cole.

Riverside police said the Army officer, after the shooting inside the camp, took a staff car and fled from the post later forcing M. Schlegel off the highway and attempting to seize his automobile. Military authorities would make no statement.

Heavy Toll Inflicted on Japs By Yanks' Encircling Movement

Gen. Stilwell's Forces Join Chinese In Pincers Around 2,000 Enemy Troops

By PRESTON GROVER, Associated Press War Correspondent.
NEW DELHI, Mar. 6.—Jungle-hardened American soldiers—some of them veterans of Guadalcanal and the Southwest Pacific—have gone into action in Burma, the first American ground forces fighting as a unit on the Asiatic continent.

The Americans made a great looping attack far to the left of Chinese forces operating in the Hukawng Valley and have struck the Japanese lines nearly 10 miles behind their present front lines.

The Americans inflicted heavy casualties on the Japanese in capturing Walaung, 8 miles south-east of Maingwan, chief village in the valley, by an encircling movement.

Pincers Established.
With capture of Walaung and Maingwan, which fell to the Chinese, a Chinese-American pincer has been established around an estimated 2,000 Japanese.

These Americans are the only body of American infantry operating in Asia. They began training in India under Brig. Gen. Frank Merrill, adopting methods proved not only

in the Southwest Pacific, but by the colorful Brig. O. G. Wingate, who last year made a long-range penetration into Burma.

Gen. Merrill's troops, part of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's command, completed the preliminary training in Central India and then polished it off in the jungles of Northern Burma.

They had their first brush with the Japanese more than a week ago, but not until today's penetration far behind the Japanese lines was their presence made public.

Airfields Attacked.
American heavy bombers carried their explosives to a number of Japanese airfields in Southern Burma last night, starting fires, while fighters, fighter-bombers and medium bombers attacked a wide variety of targets in the last three days.

Mediums hit Shamo town last night. Fighter and medium bombers, in Northern Burma swept damaged locomotives, freight cars, river craft and camp areas, destroyed a bridge at Kumayen, heavily damaged a runway at the Shwebo airfield, and demolished several warehouses.

Divebombers and fighters attacked enemy positions on all Burma fronts in support of the Allied troops in the last two days.

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Americans Reinforce Los Negros to Meet Expected New Attack

Japs Also Building Up Power After Failure to Retake Motomote Airfield

By the Associated Press.
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Mar. 6.—More American troops and supplies are being poured onto Los Negros Island in the Admiralties, against indications that the Japanese may make another strong attempt to recapture Motomote Airfield.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur today sent word to the island that in progress and additional supplies and reinforcements for the 1st Cavalry Division were constantly being landed. It was reported that the Japs also were renewing their strength after Saturday's costly setback.

There was evidence of eastward movement of Japanese troops from the garrison at Lorengai on Manus Island, adjacent to Los Negros Island on the west, an Allied headquarters spokesman said. This led to the belief that another battle was in the making.

700 Japs Dead Left on Field.
Sporadic fighting flared when the Americans came up against enemy groups which survived the fierce attack Friday night and Saturday. When the Japs hit the water, the Americans' defenses around the airfield again and again without denting the line.

In this mightiest effort to retrieve the airfield which fell so easily to the invaders when they landed February 29, the Japanese left more than 700 dead, Gen. MacArthur said.

Three thousand Japanese have been killed or wounded since the landing, Gen. MacArthur said yesterday. American losses were 61 dead and 244 wounded.

Rabaul Sends Up Fighters.
Allied aircraft bombed Japanese installations west of Motomote, without interception, and American destroyers shelled islands at the entrance of Seidler Harbor at Lorengai, destroying gun positions.

Ukraine Drive Cuts Last Nazi Railway Line

Germans Must Divert Southern Traffic Through Rumania

By the Associated Press.
MOSCOW, March 6.—The 1st Ukrainian Army, rolling southward in a new offensive under Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov, appeared today to have cut the Odessa-Lwow railroad, last important German line of communication out of Southern Russia.

In the third day of their power drive, the Russians were fighting their way into Volochisk, railway junction just east of Tarnopol, Soviet dispatches said. With that railway line neutralized the Germans would be forced to divert their southern rail traffic through Rumania.

Zhukov, assistant commander in chief, who took his first command at the front since the battle of Moscow in the push, which cracked German defenses on a 112-mile front and surged forward up to 31 miles.

Joining with previously won positions in old Poland, the new line gave the Russians a salient from Lublinski in the north, southwest to Lutske, and southeast to Belozerska—a line about 165 miles long.

Nazis Admit Break-Through.
The German communiqué yesterday admitted break-throughs, and a Berlin broadcast said the Russians were attacking a heavy battle line of 12 to 14 rifle divisions and three tank corps—more than 200,000 men.

The Soviet bulletin also announced that far to the north, where the Red Army has established a bridgehead across the Narova River in Estonia south of the Shepetovka area, the southern side of their westernmost salient into old Poland. Advancing southward, the Russians swept down on the railroad from Shepetovka and Vishgorodok, 21 miles northeast of Ternopil.

The bulletin said a heavy battle was fought for the town of Belozerska, 24 miles southwest of Shepetovka, but Soviet tankmen, assisted by infantry, antitank riflemen and artillery, finally overwhelmed the Nazis.

The enemy suffered enormous losses in manpower and equipment in all sectors of the front, the communiqué said. "An enormous amount of war material was captured and shattered enemy divisions abandoned their artillery, ammunition dump and war material in their retreat."

Three Army Air Forces officers will be tried April 3 by general court-martial at Cincinnati, Ohio, on charges of neglect of duty in connection with faulty inspection procedures at the Wright Aeronautical Plant at Lockland, Ohio, the Army announced today.

The officers are Lt. Col. Frank C. Greulich and Maj. Walter A. Ryan, both of Detroit, and Maj. William Bruckmann of Cincinnati.

Brig. Gen. Lehman W. Miller will be president of the court martial and Col. Philip J. McCook, a former member of the New York State Supreme Court, will serve as law member. The government's case will be presented by Maj. Henry C. Clausen.

Severe Winter Drought Strikes English Areas

By the Associated Press.
LONDON, Mar. 6.—Southern and Eastern England are experiencing their most severe winter drought in more than 25 years and the water shortage has become so acute in some leading dairy counties that the nation's milk ration may have to be cut further, the Daily Mirror said today.

Farmers in some areas are having to cart water for miles because streams which normally run full at this season have dried up and springs have become foul and stagnant.

Argentine Professor Dies Scaling Mountain

By the Associated Press.
MENDOZA, Argentina, Mar. 6.—A searching party said yesterday it had found the body of Prof. Walter Schiller of La Plata University, one of four persons lost trying to scale 22,834-foot Mount Aconcagua.

WMC Rejects 154 of 205 Pleas For D. C. Employee Deferments

By the Associated Press.
The War Manpower Commission's committee on deferments of Government employees has rejected 154 of 205 applications of the District government for deferment of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

Budget Officer Walter L. Fowler, head of the agency committee for deferments in the District government, said today a recognition would be asked on the basis of "essential positions," regardless of marital status.

Only 37 deferments were approved, while 2 were approved for 60 days and 12 for 90 days. Among those rejected were such positions as assistant corporation counsel, recreation directors, fire alarm operators, health and physical education instructors, teachers, X-ray technicians, draftsmen and junior engineers and a number of police and firemen with less than one year's service.

On the other hand, the WMC did uphold deferments for 27 police and firemen with less than a year's service. Three other pre-Pearl Harbor father applications were for a civil engineer inspector in the Sewer Department, one machinist in the Highway Department and one assistant superintendent of fire alarm headquarters.



Variation on Noah's Experiment

Pentagon Operating At Loss of \$3,150,454 Annually, Engel Says

Contention That Building Will Soon Pay for Itself Challenged

By DON S. WARREN.
Continuing his campaign against "outrageous waste" of tax funds in the Pentagon development, Representative Engel, Republican, of Michigan today flung a new set of almost astronomical cost figures at War Department officials, contending the building is being operated at a net loss of \$3,150,454 a year.

After lining up a staggering array of statistics based on reports from official sources, Mr. Engel also came up with the conclusion that at the end of a 50-year period the aggregate bill will have run up to \$232,527,700.

Today's chapter of Mr. Engel's investigation—there is another to come on land acquisition—was a challenge of the recent statement from the Press Relations Division of the War Department that the building would "pay for itself" in a short period of years, by reason of saving expenses for other buildings.

Press Division Assailed.
In his statement which was to be presented to the House today, Mr. Engel does not let the Press Relations Division rest there, but demands that "the officers issuing that statement should be relieved from duty and relegated to private life to prevent them from sending out similar misinformation to the public in the future."

In the face of the facts," he continued, "the statement certainly was unexcusable. It was either issued with the deliberate intention of misleading the public and giving misinformation to the people, or those issuing it made no attempt to ascertain the facts in the case. In either case the officers issuing that statement should be relieved from duty."

While admitting that he was not a certified public accountant and had "no training along those lines," Mr. Engel delved into a mass of War Department reports on operation costs, depreciation, insurance, bond financing, etc., to arrive at these conclusions:

That while in 1939 the Government rented, in Washington, 3,664,716 net square feet of office space at an average of 94 cents per square foot, and which it was tested by a Government spokesman before a House Subcommittee July 22, 1941, that Pentagon's costs would be \$1.25 per square foot a year, reports show the costs run to \$2.20.

Operating Costs Estimated.
That the total operating cost of the Pentagon for 1943 was \$3,823,236, interest on \$75,000,000 worth of bonds (considering bond sale revenues as the source of financing the Pentagon construction) would amount to \$2,175,000 a year, a 2 per cent depreciation allowance on the building and its utilities (though he insisted the life of utilities would be as long as 50 years) would add another \$1,240,919 a year.

That, under this calculation, the total operating cost and carrying charge for the building would be \$7,239,255 a year, from which Mr. Engel deducts \$4,088,801 as a "fair appraisal" of the rental costs of (See PENTAGON, Page A-4.)

Three Boys, Two Girls Die in Train-Auto Crash

By the Associated Press.
BRIDGEPORT, Ind., Mar. 6.—Three boys and two girls were injured fatally as a train struck their stalled automobile on the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks here last night.

The dead were Mildred Schutte, 17; Nancy Serling, 17; Harley F. Aisman, 16; Robert Kershaw, 19, and Hugh Hughes, 17. All except Kershaw were pupils at nearby Ben Davis High School.

Miss Schutte died today. The others died in the accident. Pvt. Clarence M. Aisman, 18; Harley's brother, home on convalescent furlough, was injured.

The bodies were strewn along the tracks for about 200 feet.

Cathedral Handyman Indicted on 6 Counts In Reardon Slaying

Speedy Action Taken By Grand Jury in Librarian's Death

Acting with unusual speed, a District grand jury today indicted Julius Fisher, colored, 31-year-old handyman at Washington Cathedral, on six counts charging first-degree murder in the slaying of Miss Catherine Cooper Reardon, 37, assistant librarian of the Cathedral.

Miss Reardon's body was found last Thursday morning in a pit worked by Fisher, arrested that night, signed a confession saying he had killed her around noon Wednesday, according to Maj. Edward J. Kelly, superintendent of police.

After confessing, Fisher took detectives to his room and gave them a framed and Mary college ring set with a garnet, which he said he had taken from the librarian's finger. He was arraigned before United States Commissioner Needham C. Turnage Friday and later in the day was held for the grand jury for a coroner's jury.

The first three of the counts on which Fisher was indicted charge him with three methods of murder, respectively: By choking and strangling Miss Reardon, by hitting her with a piece of wood and causing her death, and by hitting her with a piece of wood and thus causing her to strike her head against a sharp object, resulting in a fracture of her skull.

The fourth, fifth and sixth charges repeat these same methods of murder, but allege that they were employed in connection with the act of robbing.

The charges were presented to the grand jury by Sylvan Schwartz, assistant United States district attorney. Fisher will be tried on the six charges before Chief Justice Edward C. Eicher of District Court.

Observers here pointed out that only five days had elapsed between the finding of Miss Reardon's body and the indictment of her killer.

30 to 50 Planes Destroyed In Allied Raid on Hainan

By the Associated Press.
CHUNGKING, Mar. 6.—American fighters of the 14th Air Force, escorted by fighters, destroyed from 30 to 50 enemy aircraft in the air and on the ground in a raid on Kiangshai airbase in the northern part of Hainan Island Saturday, a communiqué from Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's headquarters said today.

The Mitchell's also struck the airbase at Chenghai in Northern Thailand today and destroyed eight twin-engine and one single-engine aircraft on the ground.

Fighter pilots of the Chinese-American wing claimed 13 Japanese planes definitely shot down in the raid on Hainan while American pilots were credited with four, besides a number damaged.

Other Mitchell's on a Lightning-escorted sweep up the Yangtze River sank a freighter and a tanker and shot down four more Japanese fighters.

Japanese airmen bombed an advanced American airbase near Suichuan, the communiqué said. One Allied plane was lost in all the operations.

Senators Give Daniels Another Chance to Answer Questions

Subcommittee Holds Charges in Abeyance as He Decides to Talk

A Senate Agriculture subcommittee voted today to hold in abeyance contempt proceedings it had recommended against Jonathan Daniels, administrative aide to President Roosevelt, in view of Mr. Daniels' decision Saturday night to appear and answer questions in the investigation of the Rural Electrification Administration.

Chairman Smith of the Agriculture Committee announced that Mr. Daniels would be called before the subcommittee at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow and given an opportunity to answer questions he refused to answer a week ago, in connection with the reported efforts to induce Harry Slattery to resign as REA administrator.

Senator Smith denied vigorously that there was any intention to embarrass President Roosevelt, declaring no reference had ever been made to the President. He said he wanted it clearly understood that the only issue the subcommittee is concerned with was how the REA is administered by Mr. Slattery and whether it would function better as an independent agency than under the Agriculture Department. He pointed out that the agency was created by Congress and its funds appropriated by Congress.

Mr. Slattery had told the subcommittee he was called to the White House by Mr. Daniels last month and asked to resign, but that he refused to sign a letter.

When Mr. Daniels was summoned and asked about this testimony, he refused to comment, contending his work for the President was confidential and that his testimony would not be in the public interest.

After the subcommittee had voted Saturday to recommend that Mr. Daniels be called before the Senate to answer contempt charges, the White House aide wrote Chairman Smith a letter explaining that Mr. Roosevelt had no objection to his testimony and that the President himself would be willing to confer with the committee at any time.

Senator Smith said Mr. Daniels' action constituted a clear-cut congressional victory over the executive branch of the Government.

"A question arose as to whether we had the power to compel a witness to testify," Senator Smith said. "We found we had."

Man Kills Self in Car In Rock Creek Park

Lawrence H. Richards, 37, of 3321 Connecticut avenue N.W. was found dead early today in his automobile in Rock Creek Park with a bullet wound in his head and loaded revolver lying nearby.

Mr. Richards was the proprietor of Lang's Cleaners, at the same address, according to Kenneth D. Ewing, assistant manager.

John A. Shea, 1304 Bryant street N.E., a Park Service employee, found the body. He told police he saw Mr. Richards sprawled over the wheel of his convertible coupe parked on Ross road, near Oregon avenue N.W., shortly before 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Ewing said Mr. Richards had been in extremely poor health for several months. A suicide certificate was issued by the coroner.

Soldier Who Escaped Courthouse Caught

One of the three men who escaped from the cell block of District Court Friday has been arrested, the FBI announced today.

He is Robert H. McKinney, 24, a soldier, who had pleaded guilty to transporting a stolen automobile across State lines. He was arrested last night in Wheeling, W. Va., according to FBI headquarters.

Inspector Robert J. Barrett, chief of detectives, said his men are still looking for the two colored men, Edward C. Ware, 21, and Cecil Diggs, 31, who escaped with McKinney. Each had pleaded not guilty to burglary charges.

Miller Denied Bail Extension, Sent to Jail

Pleads Not Guilty at Arraignment; Trial Set for May 15

(Picture on Page A-4.)

Robert I. Miller, accused slayer of Dr. John E. Lind, was committed to District Jail today after Justice Ben Moore of West Virginia refused to continue his \$15,000 bond. The date of trial was set for May 15.

Arraigned before Justice Moore, Miller pleaded not guilty in a strong voice, while his wife, who had difficulty finding a seat in the crowded courtroom, covered her eyes.

In a 45-minute argument over continuance of bond, Defense Attorney Mason Welch attacked "vile remarks" in the newspaper and brought in the names of the late Justice Wendell P. Stafford, as well as Chief Justice Edward C. Eicher and Justice F. Dickinson Letts, to back up his contention that Miller was a respected citizen whose continuance on bond would do no harm to the community.

Assails Newspapers.
"I've seen rather vile remarks in the newspapers," Mr. Welch said. "The newspapers have chosen to say that this court and the district attorney's office are afraid to crack down on Bob Miller. What do they mean crack down? It's not a question of cracking down. It's a matter of the administration of justice."

Rising to protest as soon as Assistant United States Attorney Charles B. Murray recommended that Miller be continued on bond, Mr. Welch spoke first of the "kindly, learned, dignified, conservative Justice Stafford." He said a picture of Justice Stafford on the wall of Miller's law office is inscribed with a reference to Miller's gentility and generosity.

Mr. Welch pointed out that Justice Moore came "from abroad" and didn't know the defendant personally as did all the judges in this jurisdiction. He pointed out that both Justice Letts and Eicher had allowed Miller to continue on bond.

"There's no law against it," Mr. Welch pleaded. "There's policy, but what is policy except the judgment as it is given to those in administrative office to decide, case for case, what should be done."

Cites Case in 1936.
Mr. Welch argued that until "this unfortunate event" Miller had never harmed any one, and he added that the circumstances which precipitated the slaying "seldom occur twice in any life." He apparently referred to the alleged relationship between the slain psychiatrist and Mr. Miller.

When Justice Moore interrupted to ask Mr. Welch to cite precedent for permitting bond after a first-degree murder indictment in this jurisdiction, Mr. Welch cited the Stanton case in 1936.

Donald K. Stanton, Jr., who pleaded self-defense to a first-degree murder charge, remained at liberty under \$5,000 from October 9, 1936, a few days after he was ordered held by a coroner's jury, until March, 1938, when he was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment for the slaying of Ray E. Gladders.

The defense attorney added, however, that precedent was not a very accurate guide, since in 90 per cent of the cases the defendants were not in a position to make bond, many of them have known criminal records, and they are not usually people who are well established in the community.

Before deciding to commit Miller to jail, Justice Moore asked what facilities were available at the jail to give Miller medical attention. Miller's health had been responsible for delaying the arraignment.

Justice Moore was informed by Mr. Murray that the practice is to transfer prisoners in need of medical attention to Gallinger Hospital, where they are kept under police guard. The justice then announced he felt this was not a case in which precedent should be established for allowing bail. He added that "the so-called precedent" was not analogous, and pointed out that Miller could be suitably cared for at the jail.

Taken to Jail in Private Car.
Miller was taken to the jail in a private car, although the customary procedure is to carry prisoners in the marshal's van.

C. G. Green, jail superintendent, said Miller would be given a medical examination, usual procedure at the jail, and if his condition warrants it, will be lodged in the jail's infirmary. He said Miller will not go to Gallinger unless he requires an operation.

Justice Moore, it is now apparent, will hear the case, since he set the date of trial for his own return from West Virginia. It has been reported that the judges in this jurisdiction would prefer not to hear the case.

Miller came to court directly from Garfield Hospital, where he had been a patient since Friday morning. He was accompanied by his wife and his older brother, Fred Miller. While Mr. Miller tried to find a seat, Miller walked through the courtroom alone to the drinking fountain, took a drink and then strolled over to the counsel table, where he pulled out a pamphlet on methods of voting by members of the armed forces, which he glanced through until Justice Moore entered the courtroom.

As he walked briskly through the District Court corridor to the courtroom, lawyers and court attendants crowded the corridor reached over several times to shake hands with him and wish him luck.

Bulgarian Peace Bid Denied

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 6.—A Swedish dispatch to the Swedish press today quoted official quarters as denying foreign reports that Bulgaria was seeking a way to quit the war.